

DPW Commission Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, February 13, 2013
7:00 p.m. – Police Station Community Room

A meeting of the DPW Commissioners was held on 2/13/13, Commissioner Sena running late.

7:00 PM Approval Items:

Board of Commissioners Minutes Approval: Commissioner Reed moved to accept the minutes of the 1/23/13 DPW meeting, seconded by Chairman Gardner, Vote: 2-0. Edits: on page 3, first line, beach replenishment; not beach erosion.

7:05 PM Open Session:

Open for Public Discussion with the Commissioners:

Zenas Seppela, Granite Street, stated that he would like to commend the DPW for their plowing, he stated that on Landmark Lane, however in an effort to get some bare spots, they put the snow wherever it could go, which was in his driveway. J. Parisi stated that he will contact the plowing personnel and see if they're having difficulties plowing Landmark Lane.

Toby Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, stated that he received copies of the applications for each of the projects for the CIPC from Town Hall. He stated that he learned that the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen Chairperson Battistelli reviewed the back-up documentation, but no one else saw the back-up. He stated that the process, in his opinion, is faulty.

T. Arsenian stated that he contacted Kim Olson regarding the RFP for the water needs assessment, he would like to see a copy before it comes to the DPW Commissioners. He stated that he is concerned about the population projections.

Frederick Tarr, 154 Main Street, stated that a new build out study would be beneficial; how about jointly with the DPW. He is in favor of Pay-as-You-Go. He is concerned about the state of the pipeline from Sawmill Brook to Cape Pond, it is prone to fire. He is requesting a reconsideration of the metals pile for personal use, usually for a temporary item. He stated it shouldn't be open for harvesting, but should be for occasional items.

J. Parisi stated that the pipe has been vandalized over the years; they'll take a look at it in better weather.

Toby Arsenian requests that the DPW Commissioners ask that the Planning Board initiate a build-out study.

7:24 PM Public Hearing on Transfer Station & Parking Sticker Fees:

Chairman Gardner stated that letters have been received supporting the Pay as You Throw.

Commissioner Sena stated that the pay as you throw has been increasing in Rockport but it is not huge. Many of the residents are in favor of the stickers.

The Municipal Assistant Coordinator, Bureau of Waste prevention with the DEP was in attendance at the meeting. She is in favor of Pay as You Throw. She stated that single stream is a separate issue from Pay as You Throw. Triple stream collection now exists (paper, plastic, metal, glass), Gloucester has a dual stream. She said that Rockport's trash goes to a municipal waste combustor.

Bill Wagner, 147 Granite Street, is a Pay as You Throw resident. He continued that he would change to a flat fee. He stated that he believes that Pay as You Throw is for low use seasonal individuals, rentals, the flat fee is more for permanent residents. Recycling is the responsibility of every resident. The current rates do not cover the costs, so an increase should be seen. Increase the cost per bag for Pay as You Throw is an option. He questioned if stickers are necessary for each vehicle.

Chairman Gardner stated that previously the fees paid for 50% of the cost, currently the fees pay for approximately 80% of the costs. The municipal trash costs should be paid by the town.

J. Parisi stated that Integrated Paper could do single-stream recycling if the town requested that.

Frederick Tarr, 154 Main Street, recommended not eliminating the Pay as You Throw option, as it would be unfair to the elderly or single residents.

Chairman Gardner stated that a prior board of commissioners had a commitment to the Pay as You Throw. He stated that a lot of people in town don't like to be forced into pay as you throw.

Frederick Tarr, 154 Main Street stated that he resents paying more for the people that don't re-cycle.

Sharon Kishida, 34 Marmion Way, stated that even though it was shot down previously, it can be revisited time and time again. She is in favor of pay as you throw. Then, residents are financially responsible for throwing out their stuff. Nobody wants to see another combuster. Rockport's trash goes into an incinerator in Saugus. She stated that 137 communities in Massachusetts are pay as you throw.

Commissioner Reed stated that he pays the yearly sticker fee and he is religious about recycling; he may change to pay as you throw. Most residents like to pay the one-time fee; the town recycles fairly well. This discussion is more about the fees than it is about methodologies. Young families prefer the one time sticker fee.

Hildy Feuerbach, 15 Pigeon Hill Street, sounds like many communities are going Pay as You Throw. She questioned what's best for the town. Pay as you throw is not popular in most communities.

Chairman Gardner stated that the Board was not ready to vote on strictly Pay as You Throw tonight; it has not been embraced by the majority of the residents. The one time sticker residents should have a chance to speak.

Commissioner Sena questioned Sharon Kishida if a town has gone to single stream, has there been an increase in recycling. And is there a difference between curbside pickup vs. transfer station.

Sharon Kishida stated that it's not clear if it's because of the single stream. She provided some data on rates of recycling in various communities: 25% recycling rate for Rockport (paper, bottles, cans); Boxford is 41% (it's Pay as You Throw), Gloucester is 31%, Ipswich is 38%, they are all curbside pickups. She stated that Duxbury would be interesting to look at. Most Pay as You Throw communities are drop off. She will get Pay as You Throw - drop off comparisons.

Toby Arsenian, 95 Granite Street stated that Pay as You Throw believers feel they are entitled to force this onto those of us that don't want it.

Chairman Gardner stated that it's unanimous that the DPW Commissioners are not ready to eliminate the annual sticker program here tonight.

Commissioner Sena stated that what's right for the town is what's right for the citizens. We need to hear it out in numbers and opinions.

Commissioner Reed stated that it's fair to offer both, it is not fair to eliminate stickers.

Chairman Gardner said we need to set rates on the stickers as they exist:

Director Parisi distributed parking sticker and transfer sticker fee data from 2010 through 2013. He stated that there are some increases in fixed costs and salary costs, as well as the overtime to keep transfer station open on Sundays. The Transfer Station capital costs were pushed off to 2015.

Commissioner Reed moved to close the public hearing, Commissioner Sena seconded, Vote: 3-0.

Commissioner Reed moved that all fees remain the same with the exception of:

Transfer station	\$145
Senior Transfer fee	\$105
Pay as you throw	\$ 25
Bags would be	\$0.40, \$0.80, and \$1.70

Seconded by Commissioner Sena, Vote: 3-0.

8:00 PM New Business:

DPW Structure & Organization

8:15 PM Ongoing Business:

Long Beach Seawall Project discussions. Chairman Gardner stated that he met with Bill Wagner, Frank Hassler and Wally Hess from the Finance Committee to talk about the Long Beach seawall and proposed a sediment transport study. He is questioning if assigning a task force to look at this is the way to go.

Commissioner Sena questioned if the task force would determine if the study was going to be done, or would they be analyzing the study.

Chairman Gardner questioned who would sit on the committee and how could they fairly represent all the residents of the town. The group should be charged with making the best recommendations.

Commissioner Reed said the study needs to be done before anyone can make recommendations. The task force should be the DPW's.

Commissioner Sena said that Coastal Zone Management provided a lot more information on what is needed. He questioned if we should be taking more time to wait for the task force to decide what they might need.

Director Parisi stated that the Sediment Transport Study is in as an Article for town meeting; the warrant was closing and he wanted to get it in.

Tim Olson stated that the task force should be responsible for the study.

It was stated that the list of potential consultants should be obtained from Coastal Zone Management.

Water Needs Assessment Draft RFP

FY13 DPW Objectives

Tickler List Discussion

Next Meeting: Wed., 2/27/13, 7pm in the Community Room at the Police Station.

9:40 PM, Commissioner Sena moved to adjourn, Commissioner Reed seconded, Vote: 3-0.

Tickler List:

March, 2013	Long Beach Seawall
April, 2013	list of roads to be repaired
May, 2013	water & sewer rates
August, 2013	review of the operational budget
September, 2013	review of the Capital Budget